

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly, comprising:
 - a housing defining a longitudinal axis and an interior, the housing interior having an outer region portion and an inner region defining a perimeter portion that is located radially inward of the outer portion; and
 - at least one spiral shaped fuel cell, including an anode electrode and a cathode electrode, that defines a fuel path;
 - wherein the fuel path extends more than once around the perimeter of the inner region longitudinal axis and has an upstream end associated with the outer region portion of the housing interior and a downstream end associated with the inner region portion of the housing interior; and
 - wherein the fuel path is in the form of an empty space that extends from an electrode surface to a hollow region defined by two radially spaced electrode surface surfaces.
2. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing includes at least one housing inlet associated with the upstream end of the fuel path and at least one exhaust port operably connected to the downstream end of the fuel path.

3. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one fuel cell comprises first and second fuel cells, the fuel cell assembly further comprising:

an oxidant path that extends more than once around the ~~perimeter of the inner region~~ longitudinal axis and has an upstream end associated with the outer region portion of the housing interior and a downstream end associated with the inner region portion of the housing interior.

4. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the housing includes a fuel inlet associated with the upstream end of the fuel path and an oxidant inlet associated with the upstream end of the oxidant path.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel path extends at least a plurality of times around the ~~perimeter of the inner region~~ longitudinal axis of the housing.

7. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a byproduct outlet region ~~associated with~~ located within the inner region portion of the housing interior.

8. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the byproduct outlet region comprises first and second byproduct outlet regions.

9. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the fuel path extends more than once around the byproduct outlet region.

10. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing includes an exhaust port operably connected to the inner region portion of the housing interior, the fuel cell assembly further comprising:

a heat exchanger associated with the housing and operably connected to the exhaust port.

11. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

at least one reactant supply operably connected to the upstream end of the fuel path.

12. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel path defines a spiral shape.

13. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 12, wherein the fuel path defines a substantially curvilinear spiral shape.

14. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly, comprising:

a housing including an inlet and an exhaust port located radially inward of the inlet;

an exhaust region connected to the housing exhaust port and defining a perimeter; and

at least one anode and cathode arrangement having a spiral shape that extends outwardly of and more than once around the perimeter of the exhaust region and defines a reactant path having an outlet end associated with the exhaust region and an inlet end connected to the housing inlet;

wherein the housing and the anode and cathode arrangement are constructed and arranged relative to one another such that the only reactant flow direction is radially inward toward the housing exhaust port that is located radially inward of the housing inlet.

15. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

a byproduct outlet region that defines the exhaust region.

16. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the exhaust region is defined by a portion of the at least one anode and cathode arrangement.

17. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 14,

wherein the at least one anode and cathode arrangement comprises first and second anode and cathode arrangements that define substantially coextensive spiral shapes;

wherein the inlet comprises first and second inlets; and

wherein the exhaust port is located radially inward of the first and second inlets.

18. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the at least one anode and cathode arrangement comprises an anode, a cathode and an electrolyte.

19. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly, comprising:

a housing defining a longitudinal axis and an interior and having an exhaust port, the housing interior having an outer region, portion and an inner region defining a perimeter portion that is located radially inward of the outer portion and is associated with the exhaust port connected to the inner region; and

means for converting reactants into electricity and byproducts and directing all of the reactants and byproducts radially inward from the outer region portion of the housing interior to the inner region portion of the housing interior ,and at while

the reactants and byproducts travel at least once around the perimeter of the inner region longitudinal axis, as the reactants are being converted into electricity and byproducts, such that all of the byproducts and any unused reactants that exit the fuel cell assembly exit ~~by way of~~ after passing through the inner region portion of the housing interior.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

at least one heat exchanger associated with the housing and operably connected to the exhaust port.

22. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein the housing includes a fuel inlet associated with the outer ~~region~~ portion of the housing interior and an oxidant inlet associated with the outer ~~region~~ portion of the housing interior.

23. (Original) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:
at least one reactant supply operably connected to the means for converting reactants into electricity and byproducts.

24-42. (Canceled)

43. (Withdrawn) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel path is adjacent to the anode electrode and the cathode electrode.

44. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel path is in the form of an empty ~~space that extends from an anode electrode surface to a~~ hollow region defined by two radially spaced anode electrode ~~surface~~ surfaces.

45. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fuel path is in the form of an empty ~~space that extends from~~ hollow region defined by an anode electrode surface and a radially spaced cathode electrode surface.

46. (New) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the housing includes at least one housing inlet associated with the upstream end of the fuel path; and
the housing inlet is oriented such fuel exits the housing inlet in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing.

47. (New) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the housing inlet is oriented such fuel exits the housing inlet in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing.

48. (New) A fuel cell assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein
the housing includes at least one housing inlet associated with the upstream end of the fuel path; and
the housing inlet is oriented such fuel exits the housing inlet in a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the housing.